

Independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.

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Good Turnout Urged

IT IS HOPED there will be a good turnout when the parks board holds its second annual swimming gala at McClymont Park tomorrow.

For some reason, events of this sort are scarce in Prince Rupert. While other B.C. towns blossom out in the summer with festivals and regattas of one kind or another, Prince Rupert is inclined to take the season in a dour fashion and has even reached the unsporty stage where it is indifferent to the popular pastime of choosing beauty queens.

Such a somber view of life is neither becoming nor attractive. We have a city here with a setting as beautiful as any in the country—and the same goes for the girls—but if we persist in bemoaning the weather, the isolation, or something else, we will come to think we are badly off in every respect.

All this may seem to have little to do with a swimming display at the Gyro pool, yet it is an event of just this kind that can become the nucleus of a much bigger annual occasion. With a fleet of ships at our waterfront and at nearby ports, it seems likely we could develop an aquatic event which would become to the northern coast what the Kelowna regatta is to the Okanagan.

While these particular notions may be off the beam for one practical reason or another it is not good enough to say that nothing at all can be done. Terrace is making an enjoyable event out of its strawberry festival. Ocean Falls has utilized its swimming pool to a point where that relatively small and isolated community is the swimming capital of Canada.

In Prince Rupert it is not a question of lacking community enterprise. The curling club, the music and drama festival, the little baseball league, the Jaycee projects—to mention just a few at random—are examples of what has been accomplished by willing volunteer hands.

It is our opinion, however, there is need for putting on an attractive summer event. Calgary has its Stampede, Vancouver its PNE, Penticton its Peach Festival, Vernon its Pioneer Days. Plenty of interest in the swimming gala may be the start of something for Prince Rupert.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Most of us read or hear more about Ottawa than other cities. Prince Rupert, for example, is about as distant as anywhere in Canada. The first time we ever journeyed there was to travel from Montreal, and that took comparatively few hours. This had nothing to do with general elections, yet it indirectly did concern politics.

FIELDING HIMSELF

This little trip to the National Capital, nevertheless, had something to do with public affairs. Mr. W. S. Fielding's budget was about to be brought down and it was my job to obtain a copy, and with all possible promptness and care deliver it to the newspaper office where I chanced to find employment. The Minister of Finance was a Nova Scotian, gray-bearded and spare. He knew his duties and had the respect of his colleagues. Mid-winter in Ottawa was like anywhere else in Canada, except in Prince Rupert for climatic contrasts undoubtedly exist. Long years ago, no Great Wars had distinguished and saddened the country, flames had not swept through the Houses of Parliament, there was no stately railway station, the Chateau Laurier was unheard of and the splendid war memorial was still a creation of later years.

Mr. Fielding could not be described as an orator. His speech, if it could be called that, was more like the reading of a document, and perhaps it would be more accurate to so term it. It was of distinct interest as well as advantage for a stranger to view the press gallery, meet many of the country's leading correspondents and try to identify public figures then holding more or less attention. While none could know, there were many of those who felt the unfolding of a new era. There were hints of a widening of transportation and expansion of development, with Ottawa a town to study and ponder. Canada was experiencing an

As I See It



by Elmore Philpott

Election Aftermath

MY ELECTION as member of Parliament for Vancouver South will make no difference to the writing of this column. So long as I am able and the publisher and readers are willing I hope to continue to write in this space.

Being an MP may well enable me to get a good deal of material that I could not get otherwise and also to make trips to otherwise inaccessible places.

Also no one need expect me to write mere political propaganda. I shall continue to call the shots exactly as I see them.

The national result of the election was about as expected. Arthur Laing, for instance, predicted that the Liberals would win 165 seats. They took 171.

The poor showing of the Conservatives was a surprise, and to me a disappointment. The danger to Canada is that we will have no coast-to-coast alternative to the party in power. Both Social Credit and the CCF are still now strictly regional parties, though either or both may conceivably spread to the east in the next few years.

PROBABLY the most significant result of the election was the marked increase in the relative strength of the CCF.

Thanks to the strenuous fight put up in the B.C. provincial election by the losing Liberals, the momentum of last year's Social Credit sweep into B.C. from Alberta was already stalled and receding.

The federal Liberals in B.C. resolutely speeded the Social Credit recession. The only exceptions to the general trend were where the collapse of the B.C. coalition had disintegrated the Liberal organization beyond hope of complete early recovery.

I WOULD feel happier about the election outcome if I saw any prospect of getting back to the solid two-party system.

Two parties are enough in any democracy, and unless there are just two main parties which alternate in office, you do not get really first class democracy.

As things now stand in Canada, it would take a bold prophet who would declare that it would be the Drew-Conservatives who would survive as the alternative to the Liberals. It might well be the CCF or it might even be Social Credit.

IN A SENSE Canada shifted drastically to the left in this 1953 election. The Conservatives are eliminated as an alternative government, indefinitely. That leaves two possible alternatives to the Liberals, especially in the event of a major economic crisis.

While Social Credit is a right wing party, in fact more "to the right" than the old line Conservatives, its financial proposals are extremely radical.

Both potential rivals of the Liberals, therefore, stand ready with rather drastic programs of change. That seems to me all to the good in a real democracy provided that the people are well educated enough to understand exactly what is proposed.

I don't think the people of Canada have been told what Social Credit really is—and I don't think most Social Crediters are themselves well enough informed about Social Credit to tell the people.

Vancouver Man Heads Sourdoughs

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)—The International Sourdoughs—hardy pioneers of the Klondike gold rush—Friday elected Tom Lamb of Vancouver as their president and chose Vancouver as the site of next year's convention. Mr. Lamb succeeds R. N. Sundquist of Seattle.



WHAT DOES a royal mother do when a princess stamps her foot and refuses to walk to the garden and be polite to visitors? Same—as any other mom. Queen Juliana simply sweeps the stubborn offspring off her feet and carries her down the palace steps to greet her guests. And what does a royal youngster do then? Same as any other child: six-year-old Princess Marijke forgets what the fuss was about in the novelty of the free ride.

All Aboard By G.E. Morlimore

Political campaign posters have never taken their place alongside stamps, coins and matchboxes as collectors' items. That is unfortunate. Poster-collecting could be a richly instructive hobby.

The photographs of the candidate which often appear on posters are a study in themselves. They give you a good idea what the candidate looked like as a young man.

The skill of a back-room Karsh is brought to bear on the facial expressions, which may convey any one of several messages, depending whether the candidate is on "in" or an "out" and also depending how mobile his face is. Sometimes a candidate attempts several messages, at once, risking dislocation of the jaw.

We have, for instance, the purposeful smile, the good-natured scowl, the gazing-into-the-future-of-this-great-country stare, the look-at-our-record grin and the get-the-rascals-out frown.

Small boys sometimes add intriguing variations. One school of thought favors the smart toothbrush mustache. Another faction among portrait retouchers leans toward the weeping willow or waterfall mustache. More creative small boys add a goat or, in rare cases, a pair of horns. You would be surprised how different a purposeful smile looks with a pair of horns above it.

It is amusing to see the small boys line up for their dollar bills and all-day suckers at the headquarters of the rival candidate.

As some collectors of stamps collect whole envelopes with postmarks as well, some collectors of campaign posters would collect whole telephone poles or vacant-store windows, upon which posters had been placed.

You might expect political posters to be printed with vanishing ink on paper especially designed to fall into powder on election day. An elected candidate surely would not like to be haunted by the ghost of his old self and his unkept promises. A defeated candidate would not like to be reminded of his failure.

Oddly enough, however, the posters seem to stay up for years—a faded picture gallery of political history, an illustrated catalogue of lost hopes.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

PC leader George Drew, despite the highly disrespectful manner in which the voters belted him around at election times, has several of the qualities of true greatness. Not the least of them is his bravery in defeat.

He gave an example of it on election night. Down in his Ottawa headquarters he had just received the stunning and discouraging news of the trampling of PC forces everywhere by the Liberals. Then one of his staff told him that some of the press gallery correspondents—a strictly practical tribe who never let their personal sympathies interfere with their interest in news—were asking for a press conference.

George Drew could easily have said "no." That's what the late W. L. Mackenzie King used to say in the rare cases when the tide of events ran against him. The newspaper men would have understood the answer. They would have felt that they had discharged their duty in asking for the conference. And they wouldn't have persisted.

But George Drew believes in acting the same in defeat as he would have acted in victory. Hence he refused to run out on the meeting he would have held with the newsmen as a matter of routine if he had been returned to power.

It wasn't an easy meeting. The newspapermen didn't pull any punches in the questions they asked. Almost their first query concerned his plans for his own and the party's future. Was he going to tender his resignation and give the party an opportunity to appoint a new leader?

It was certainly the most pertinent question which the events of the evening raised, so far as the PCs were concerned. But it wasn't the sort of question you were prepared to answer off the cuff just a few minutes after you had picked yourself up out of the shambles of defeat. That's why George Drew might very well have run out on the reporters, instead of facing them.

The answer which he gave them, obviously was improvised on the moment for the purpose of gaining time. He said that the matter was one to be dealt with by the party executive at the annual meeting of the Dominion Conservative Association. But the party executive and the annual meeting don't take place until next February or March. Obviously, Mr. Drew cannot keep silent for that number of months in respect to a situation which has become of such critical moment to his party. Furthermore, the Dominion association has no control whatever over the matter of leadership. That is something with which only a duly-assembled national convention can deal.

Mr. Drew clearly was answering the newsmen the other night just to gain time. Undoubtedly he'll give the real answer to their question before too many days have passed—as soon as he has had time to give the matter the hard and personally distressful thought that it inevitably must be given.

West-East Europe Trade Continuing to Decrease

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—The United Nations reports that commerce between West Europe and the Soviet bloc is continuing to shrink, but indicates some possibly strategic items are still being traded.

The summer number of the Economic Bulletin for Europe, issued here and in Geneva by the UN, did not go into the question of strategic material specifically.

But it listed trade agreements of 15 western countries with Russia and six of her satellites, which included some items that the UN Committee on Collective Measures has designated as of high strategic importance in any war.

Some other items involved in trade agreements quotas extending into 1954 include products the committee has said might be considered strategic material in specific instances.

Included among the exports to the Iron Curtain area are shipping, autos, trucks and tractors, railway cars, and lubricants, all designated by the committee as items of primary strategic importance.

Other exported items from West Europe included crude and rolled steel, tubing, ball bearings, electrical and other machines, chemicals, machine

tools, optical products, iron and other ferrous and non-ferrous ores and minerals, watches and chemicals.

All these are included in the UN designation of items that might become important strategically in specific instances.

Heaviest exporters of these items were listed as Austria, West Germany, Finland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark and France.

In return, the listed trade agreements show that Russia exported valuable manganese ore, scrap iron, ferro-alloys, and diesel oil—also considered strategic material—to West Europe.

Sharpest cut in the dwindling trade from west to east was in machinery exports, the Bulletin notes. Tightening of export licensing by western countries cut exports of machinery by 10 to 15 per cent from 1950 to 1951, and by a further 25 per cent from 1951 to 1952.

Eastern markets in 1952 accounted for less than one per cent of all machinery exports for the principal exporters of machinery—Britain, West Germany and France—leaving the field chiefly to Sweden, Finland, Austria and, to a smaller extent, Italy, the Bulletin said.

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Attend CHURCH SUNDAY Saturday Sermon

CLOSING TIME By MAJOR W. C. POULTON, MBE. Text: "Watch therefore; for ye know not the day nor the hour when the Lord doth come."—Matthew XXIV:42. The use, abuse, investment, expenditure, of time, a all-consuming occupation of mankind. By far the greatest for our so-called "high standard of living" on the North continent, are those which we claim save time for the housewife or the laborer, the teacher or the executive time! Is it possible? First let us be sure what we mean, individually, by the word "time."

First Presbyterian Church. We extend a cordial invitation to visitors to worship with us. 231 Fourth Ave. East. Minister: Rev. E. A. Wright, D.D. Organists: Mrs. E. J. Smith and John Currie. SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 1953. Morning Worship 11 o'clock. Sunday School 12:15. Evening Worship 7:30. Minister at both services. "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy."

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